

AGENDA ITEM #7

March 11, 2005

To: Delta Protection Commission
From: Margit Aramburu, Executive Director
Subject: Legislation of Potential Interest to the Commission in 2005
(*For Commission consideration and possible action*)

The Legislature reconvened for the first year of its 2005-2006 legislative session on January 3, 2005; the last day for bills to be introduced was February 18, 2005. The first year of the session will run through September 9, 2005; this is the last day any bill may be passed in order for the Governor to consider it. The Governor will then have until October 9, 2005 to sign or veto any bills passed by the Legislature during the first year of the two-year session.

This memo includes information on bills of potential interest to the Delta Protection Commission that have been introduced in the first year of this legislative session. Full text of all bills is available at www.sen.ca.gov.

AB 797: Wolk: DELTA PROTECTION COMMISSION (text attached)

Note: Author plans to submit amendments.

Under existing law, the Delta Protection Commission elects from its members a chairperson and vice chairperson who serve two-year terms and may be re-elected. This bill proposes to delete the provision allowing the chairperson or vice chairperson to be reelected. The bill would provide that these positions be rotated each term among the representatives from State, local, and public interests, at their desire to serve in those capacities.

STATUS: May be heard in committee March 22.

AB 1200: Laird: SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA

This bill would require the Dept. of Water Resources (DWR) to evaluate the potential impacts that subsidence, earthquakes, floods, and climate change may have on water supplies derived from the Delta. The bill would require DWR and the Dept. of Fish and Game (DFG) to evaluate and rate options available for advancing certain interests that relate to the Delta. The bill would also require DWR and DFG to submit their written findings to the Legislature and Governor no later than June 30, 2005.

STATUS: May be heard in committee March 27.

AB 1296: Hancock: SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA WATER TRAIL

This bill would enact the San Francisco Bay Area Water Trail Act. The act would establish the San Francisco Bay Water Trail to link access to the waters of San Francisco and San Pablo Bays and the Delta that are available for navigation, and provide for

diverse water-accessible overnight accommodations. The bill would require the State Coastal Conservancy to lead a collaborative partnership, including, but not limited to, the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission and the Association of Bay Area Governments, to facilitate the establishment of the trail. The Conservancy would be required to prepare and submit a plan for the trail to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2009.

STATUS: May be heard in committee March 26.

SB 200: Machado: SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA CONSERVANCY PROGRAM (text attached)

Note: This bill is the same as SB 86; the Commission voted to support SB 86.

Existing law requires that six members of the Legislature be appointed to meet with the State Coastal Conservancy and participate in its activities; this bill would provide that these appointments shall balance representation among coastal California, the San Francisco Bay Area, and the Delta appropriate to the Conservancy's activities.

This bill would also establish the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Program, to be administered by the Conservancy, for the purpose of restoring, enhancing, and protecting the unique agricultural, economic, natural, cultural, recreational, public access, and urban waterfront resources and opportunities of the Delta in a coordinated and comprehensive manner.

Finally, the bill would create the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Program Account in the State Coastal Conservancy Fund, for the purpose of depositing and disbursing funds for the administration and implementation of the program. The money would be segregated into two subaccounts; one of which would contain State funds appropriated by the Legislature for the purposes of the program; and one of which would contain non-State funds that are derived from other sources, exclusive of federal funds, for the purposes of the program.

STATUS: To Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Water on February 24.

SB 264: Machado: DELTA FLOOD PROTECTION FUND

Under existing law, the Delta Flood Protection Fund will be abolished on July 1, 2006, with all unencumbered moneys in the fund transferred to the General Fund. This bill would extend the existence of the fund until July 1, 2008.

STATUS: To Senate Committee on Natural Resources & Water on February 24.

SB 866: Kehoe: WATER USE MEASUREMENT INFORMATION

This bill would require DWR, no later than two years after completing each update of Bulletin 160 (The California Water Plan), to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report regarding various matters concerning water use measurement information. The

bill would require DWR, in consultation with water suppliers and other State agencies, to develop and implement the use of a coordinated water use reporting database, to be made available through the Internet. The bill, no later than January 1, 2013, would require certain water users and suppliers required to report water use measurement information to

the State to do so by using the standard forms developed for use in connection with the database.

The bill, no later than January 1, 2010, would require agricultural water suppliers to annually report aggregated farm-gate delivery data to DWR using the standard forms, and would also require persons diverting surface water to measure and report, at least annually, those diversions to DWR using the standard forms.

STATUS: May be heard in committee March 26.